

Morning Prayer & Praise

for use on 4th, 18 and 25th July 2021

TO OUR VISITORS

Thank you
for worshipping with us today.

We thank God
for your presence in worship,
and we invite you to join us again soon.

Until then, may God bless you and keep you safe.



To join in online:

- Go to www.zoom.us or use the Zoom app
- or phone 0131 460 1196 or 0203 481 5237
- Meeting ID 357-123-751, Password 111

Before the service starts, you may like to prepare ...

- The Easter candle, or another candle and something to light it with
- Some tea, coffee, biscuits... to enjoy as we chat after the service

During the service

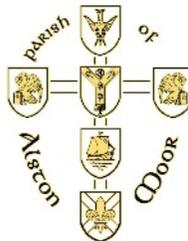
- The service will be livestreamed on YouTube: if you're worried that your face may be seen, please keep your camera turned off – but introduce yourself when you join!
- If you would like us to pray for someone or something specific during the service, please let us know
- Please keep your microphone muted during the service, except when you are joining in the responses or prayers

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Thanks to the Revd Alastair Barrett and Hodge Hill Church, Birmingham for many of the texts in this service.

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From earliest times, Christians have gathered at the beginning and end of each day to hear God's word, and to respond with praise on behalf of all creation and with prayer for the world.

On Sunday, the first day of the week, we commemorate both the first day of creation and Christ's resurrection. With Christians worshipping in all the world, we

- ¶ Gather in God's presence
- ¶ Confess the sins of the world, and receive God's forgiveness
- ¶ Listen to the Scriptures, and seek to hear what God is saying to us today
- ¶ Affirm our faith
- ¶ Pray for the whole of creation, especially those in particular need
- ¶ Praise God and give thanks for his goodness
- ¶ Receive God's blessing, as we commit ourselves once again to serve God's people in our community in the coming week

¶ **Gathering in God's Presence**

THE WELCOME

Welcome in the name of Christ.
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you

All and also with you.

Words of welcome may be said.

All The world belongs to God,
the earth and all its people.

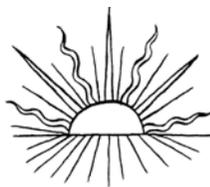
◆ How good it is, how wonderful
All to live together in unity.

All Love and faith come together;
justice and peace join hands.

◆ Though we are physically apart
All We are united in the love of Christ.

All O Lord, open our lips,
and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

We light our candles as a sign of Christ's presence among us



We have been fed spiritually by God's word as we have heard and reflected on the Scriptures, and by the fellowship we have shared together. Now we prepare to disperse, fortified by the Holy Spirit, and empowered by the resurrection life of Jesus to serve God in our daily lives.

¶ **Taking Good News to the World**

The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

THE BLESSING

This or another suitable blessing is used

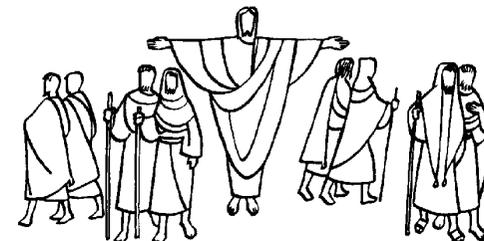
The peace of God,
which passes all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds
in the knowledge and love of God,
and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

All Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

◆ In peace, let us love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.



CLOSING PRAYER

All Lord Jesus,
we thank you for being with us
in our prayers and praises.
As you live in us, may we live in you.
Open our eyes
to see your presence in our world,
and by your Spirit may we work together
to make all creation a dwelling place
for you, our God.
Amen.

Notices may be given out

HYMN



HYMN

PRAYER OF APPROACH

God, our Creator,
you have wonderfully made us.
You have planted in us different gifts,
no two of us are the same.
On our own we may or may not shine,
but together, in your company,
you turn us into a kaleidoscope of grace.

Sometimes we lament the busyness of our lives,
sometimes we bemoan the emptiness.
These are signs of our longing
for a fulfilment we cannot create,
but which we can receive
from the One who made us, knows us and loves us.

Lover of all and of each,
enable us here to be fully open
to you
to all you have to offer,
to all that you ask of us.

All Amen.

SAYING SORRY, BEING FORGIVEN

These or other appropriate words are said

- ◆ Trusting in God's forgiveness, let us confess our failings and acknowledge our part in the pain of the world.

Silence is kept, then

- ◆ ... Lord, have mercy.
- All* Lord, have mercy.
- ◆ ... Christ, have mercy.
- All* Christ have mercy.
- ◆ ... Lord, have mercy.



All Lord, have mercy.

The minister assures us of God's forgiveness, in these or other words

The Father of all mercies
cleanses you from your sins,
and restores you in his image
to the praise and glory of his name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

◆ Blessed is the Lord,

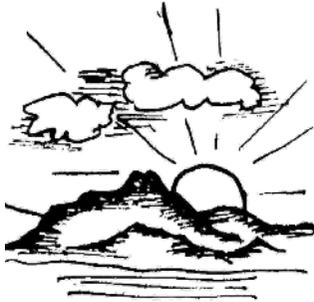
All for he has heard the voice of our prayer;

◆ therefore shall our hearts dance for joy

All and in our song will we praise our God.

THE COLLECT (PRAYER FOR THE WEEK)

After a period of silent prayer the minister says the Collect and we respond



We one or two readings from the Old and/or New Testament, as well as one from a Gospel (account of the life of Jesus).

Through the sermon we explore what God might be saying to us today through these readings. We respond by affirming our faith as we say the Creed, and by praying for the needs of the world.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

We pray the Lord's Prayer, in whichever version or language we wish

◆ Standing here among us is Jesus,
so we join our prayers to his as we say:

Either:

**All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Or:

**All Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

In Jesus our brother, you became flesh like us,
walking the same earth, breathing the same air.

In Jesus, you made your home among us,
sharing tables with the outcast,
and washing tired and cracked feet.

With word and silence, with action and stillness,
he revealed the power of a love
stronger than the powers-that-be,
and for that he was crucified.

But your love remained,
and you raised him to new life,
a life wild and free from temples and tombs,
a life of forgiveness, healing and peace:

All **Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Send afresh on us your wild Spirit,
breath of life and wind of change.
Fill our lungs with your justice,
fill our hearts with your love,
and fill our voices with your praise:
for you alone are God, and in you is our hope,
life-giver, pain-bearer, love-maker.

All **Amen.**



¶ **Listening to God's Word**

READINGS

One or more passages from the Bible are read

At the end of each the reader says

Into ancient words

All **you breathe new life.**

A Psalm may be read



HYMN

GOSPEL READING

The Gospel is introduced with an acclamation such as

◆ Alleluia, alleluia. We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

All **Alleluia**

◆ Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to N.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At the end

◆ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON OR REFLECTION

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

Either

◆ Let us declare our faith in God.

All **We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

cf Ephesians 3

Or

- ◆ In his words and his life,
Jesus shows us God's way.
Let us affirm again
our commitment to that way:
- ◆ Blessed are the poor in spirit,
All for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ◆ Blessed are those who mourn,
All for they shall be comforted.
- ◆ Blessed are the meek,
All for they shall inherit the earth.
- ◆ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness,
All for they shall be satisfied.
- ◆ Blessed are the merciful,
All for they shall obtain mercy.
- ◆ Blessed are the pure in heart,
All for they shall see God.
- ◆ Blessed are the peacemakers,
All for they shall be called children of God.
- ◆ Blessed are those who suffer persecution for righteousness' sake,
All for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- ◆ In Jesus, the love of God comes close.
All We will walk in his way.



Prayer of Thanksgiving (2)

The Lord is here

All His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

God our Maker,
mother and father of all that is,
you shaped wonderful creatures
from the dust of the earth
and breathed life into all that you made.

You called your children by name,
and journeyed with them through the world.

You went with them into exile,
and yearned with them for home-coming.

In the cries of the oppressed for justice,
and in the cries of the earth for rest,
you cried out too.

In your prophets
you brought comfort and challenge,
you unseated rulers and lifted the downcast,
and you gave your voice to the silenced of the earth,
so that all might join together,
from mountain heights and ocean depths,
from city streets and the wildest edges
to sing your praise:

**All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**



All Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

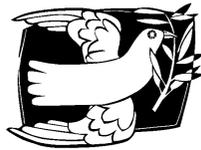
Creator God,
as we praise you for your goodness,
with Jesus we pray for the beautiful but hurting world
you have entrusted to us.
May healing and joy abound,
justice and peace prevail,
the year of the Lord's favour be known
and your resurrection life quicken your people
as we proclaim with confidence:

All Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

As your Spirit groans
for the renewal of all creation,
send your Spirit on us
that we may be channels of your peace,
witnesses to your hope,
and dwellers in your joy,
through Jesus Christ,
life-giver, pain-bearer, love-maker.

All Amen.

The service continues with the Lord's Prayer on page 12



PRAYING FOR OTHERS

The prayers usually include these concerns:

- ¶ *The Church of Christ*
- ¶ *Creation and the environment*
- ¶ *Human society, the Queen, those in authority*
- ¶ *The local community*
- ¶ *Those who suffer*
- ¶ *The communion of saints*

One of these responses, or another, may be used

Lord, in your mercy

All Hear our prayer.

Or

Lord, hear us

All Lord, graciously hear us.

And at the end

Merciful Father

All Accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.



i We remember Jesus' instruction not to bring gifts to God if we have anything against our brothers or sisters. So we share God's peace with one another before we give thanks for all that God has done for us, especially through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; and offer ourselves to God's service.

¶ Giving Thanks

SHARING GOD'S PEACE

The minister introduces the Peace with words such as

Christ is our peace.
He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace..

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

HYMN



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We use either the First Prayer of Thanksgiving (below) or the Second Prayer of Thanksgiving on page 10

Prayer of Thanksgiving (1)

The Lord is here

All **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

For you, Creator God,
the valleys laugh and sing
and the trees of the field clap their hands.

Your earth summons us to break silence
and be one with the song of creation.

All **We give you thanks and praise.**

For you, God of all,
the church in its myriad forms
and countless languages honours its Saviour.
Millions upon millions invite us
to be one with them in the drama of worship.

All **We give you thanks and praise.**

In heaven, beyond our seeing,
the angels and saints are caught up in song.
And those we have loved and lost
are part of that great company.
They call us to be one with the harmony of heaven.

All **We give you thanks and praise.**

So, gladly, we join our voices
to those of earth, sea and sky,
in the universal hymn of praise
which echoes through time and eternity: